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[illegible] 2,100

[illegible] 54.600

[illegible] 546.000

Which will give a grand total of about 8 millions
dollars [illegible] 60 days
for the ongoing expenses in such an establishment.

You are not to suppose that the above calcula-
tions are the extent of what may be done. It is on the
[illegible] I am convinced that with
[illegible] & I repeat
again if the machinery was properly taken care of,
& the establishment well supplied with workmen

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[illegible] Esqr. No. 3 New Orleans 8th July 1839.
the U.S. Dist. Atty & Commissioner

Agreeably to your request I visited the Mint yesterday morning the 7th inst. & I have most carefully examined all the machinery with which that institution has been furnished.

I shall endeavour to present for your consideration, whatever occurred to me as most important, approving or condemning, so far as the examination of two or three hours will authorise me to express my opinion, requesting you at the same time not to rely too implicitly on my statement, as I am satisfied that there are other persons to be found who are more capable of forming a correct decision.

It appeared to me that the Steam Engine is not in a condition to perform with the most favorable results. The vibration which is apparent in the cylinder, & the jerk which occurs on every revolution of the fly wheels demonstrate that the machine is not plumb. Now as all the rest of the machinery is set in motion by the Steam Engine, and it is the motion of the engine that determines the jerk to the rest of the machinery, & especially the rolling machines, which ought to move with the utmost precision & steadiness in consequence of the delicate operations they have to perform, it is evident that any irregularity in motion, or weight, must soon render them unfit for service

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[illegible] necessarily [illegible]; [illegible] & that such a defect must, to a certain extent, [illegible] with the subsequent operations.

To point out exactly all the defects of the Steam Engine, it would have been necessary for me to have made experiments, which I could not do when the machinery was at work. But I repeat what I have already said that it is not in a condition to produce [illegible]; & I was much surprised that in [illegible] the defect [illegible] especially as an experienced engineer [illegible] make every necessary alteration [illegible].

The furnaces of the Steam Engine appeared to me to be very inferior & the information I received on the subject, confirmed the opinion I had formed, that there was at least double the necessary quantity of fuel consumed.

That Steam Engine honestly & skilfully managed would do great credit to Messrs. Rush & Muhlenberg the machinists who made it.

The Sap rolling machine appears to be in very good order.

The [illegible] drawing benches [illegible] to be in a condition to [illegible] of them.

The milling machines perform very well.

The punching or cutting machines are in good condition and perform well. They do not appear to require any material alteration.

[illegible] that the Coining presses are on the whole [illegible] the only [illegible] they [illegible] accidents which happen to them, [illegible] by Mr. Hyler the Coiner, [illegible] are necessary [illegible].

There are three [illegible]; & 2

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2.10
54.60
546.00

[illegible] surprised that the quarter dollar press is still in the work shop of the Mint, & I know not how the cause [illegible] for its not being at work, for after the information I have received I am under the necessity of believing that this press was in perfect order when it was sent here, & that it had been satisfactorily at work at Philadelphia.

I suggest these circumstances [illegible] to state that not many hands are [illegible] to take care of the coining presses, that they [illegible] in the condition required, so as to accomplish all that may fairly be expected of them. I must say that their importance seems to have been greatly overrated. As to the general plan and completion of these presses, all is admirable; it is a happy illustration of the genius of the mechanic who constructed them.

I will give [illegible] rough calculation of what I think the Mint is capable of doing in the course of a year with the present machinery & complement of workmen.

The three presses without any particular effort would strike the following amounts of silver coins.

Of half dollars, say 40 per minute,

In one day	24.000 pieces	or	$ 12.000
In 26 days	624.000	"	or $ 312.000
In one year say	6240.000	"	or $ 3120.000

Of quarter dollar pieces, say 60 per minute:

In one day	36.000 pieces	or	$ 9.000
In 26 days	936.000	"	or $ 234.000
In one year	9360.000	"	or $ 2340.000

Of Dimes say 70 per minute

In one day	42.000 pieces	or $	4.200
In 26 days	1.092.000	"	or $ 109.200
In one year	10,920.000	"	or $ 1.092.000

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[illegible] [illegible] stamping [illegible] day [illegible]

[illegible] 42.000 pieces [illegible] 2.100
[illegible] 26 days [illegible] 1.092.000 [illegible] 54.600
[illegible] the year [illegible] 10.920.000 [illegible] 546.000

Which would give a grand total of about 8 millions dollars, [illegible] the above calculation [illegible] deducted 60 days for the necessary repairs in such an establishment.

You are not to suppose that the above calculations [illegible] the extent of what may be done. It is on the [illegible] the minimum I am convinced that with [illegible] management [illegible] & I repeat again if the machinery was properly taken care of, & the establishment well supplied with workmen [illegible] the necessary quantity of Bullion being deposited the above calculation might be exceeded by several [illegible]. The public & the government then may derive great benefit from the Institution, & a calculation of expenses might safely be based in a coinage of three millions & a half dollars per annum.

In conclusion I must express my conviction that the course pursued in some of the departments [illegible] have the inevitable tendency to ruin the Institution, & that it is of great importance that all the officers & clerks should be acclimated [illegible] with the necessity of stopping the operations of the mint during the sickly season so as the operations of such an establishment should be carried on successfully.

I have the honor, Sir, to remain

[illegible] respectfully your obedient servant

[illegible signature]